

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 25 2014

RE: S.C.R. No. 116

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim  
President of the Senate  
Twenty-Seventh State Legislature  
Regular Session of 2014  
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committees on Higher Education and Judiciary and Labor,  
to which was referred S.C.R. No. 116 entitled:

"SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE HAWAII ACCESS TO  
JUSTICE COMMISSION TO CONVENE A WORKING GROUP TO DEVELOP AN  
EDUCATIONAL LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM FOR WILLIAM S. RICHARDSON  
SCHOOL OF LAW GRADUATES TO EXPAND OPPORTUNITIES TO PURSUE  
PUBLIC INTEREST CAREERS IN HAWAII THAT DIRECTLY SERVE  
UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to request the  
Hawaii Access to Justice Commission to convene a working group to  
develop an educational loan repayment program for graduates of the  
William S. Richardson School of Law to expand opportunities for  
graduates to pursue public interest careers in the State that  
directly serve underserved communities.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure  
from the William S. Richardson School of Law, Hawai'i Access to  
Justice Commission, Community Alliance on Prisons, and one  
individual.

Your Committees find that the Hawaii Access to Justice  
Commission's (Commission) mission is to increase access to justice  
in civil matters for low- and moderate-income residents. The  
Commission has found that one of the reasons for the disparity in  
access to the judicial system is the insufficient number of  
attorneys in the State who choose to practice public interest law.



Your Committees further find that there are not enough new lawyers that are able to practice public interest law due to accumulated educational debt incurred, the high cost of living in Hawaii, and the low compensation for public interest work compared to other practice areas.

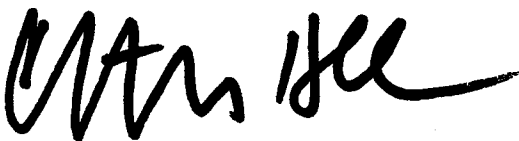
This measure will establish a working group to develop an educational loan program for graduates of the William S. Richardson School of Law to expand opportunities for graduates to pursue public interest careers in the State that directly serve underserved communities. In establishing such a program, Hawaii would join the federal government and twenty-six other jurisdictions nationwide that have loan repayment assistance programs to encourage lawyers to pursue public interest work.

Your Committees note that in the future, the Legislature may wish to examine whether similar loan repayment programs should be extended to other educational disciplines for which there is a need to encourage public interest work in disadvantaged and underserved areas.

Your Committees would also encourage Hawaii's congressional delegation to examine whether federal loan repayment programs could be expanded to include other disciplines as well.

As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Higher Education and Judiciary and Labor that are attached to this report, your Committees concur with the intent and purpose of S.C.R. No. 116 and recommend that it be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.

Respectfully submitted on  
behalf of the members of the  
Committees on Higher Education  
and Judiciary and Labor,



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CLAYTON HEE, Chair



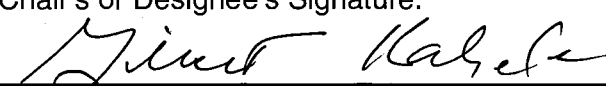
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BRIAN T. TANIGUCHI, Chair



The Senate  
Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Higher Education**  
**HRE**

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SCR 116</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">HRE/JDL, WAM</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">3-24-14</div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310         </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313         </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
TANIGUCHI, Brian T. (C)	✓			
KAHELE, Gilbert (VC)	✓			
KEITH-AGARAN, Gilbert S.C.	✓			
IGE, David Y.				✓
KIDANI, Michelle N.				✓
TOKUDA, Jill N.				✓
SLOM, Sam		✓		✓
<b>TOTAL</b>	3	1		3
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted           <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted         </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>				
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em;"> <div>Distribution:</div> <div>Original</div> <div>Yellow</div> <div>Pink</div> <div>Goldenrod</div> </div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 2px;"> <div>File with Committee Report</div> <div>Clerk's Office</div> <div>Drafting Agency</div> <div>Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

\*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate  
Twenty-Seventh Legislature  
State of Hawai'i

**Record of Votes**  
**Committee on Judiciary and Labor**  
**JDL**

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Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
HEE, Clayton (C)	✓			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L. (VC)	✓			
GABBARD, Mike	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood				✓
IHARA, Jr., Les				✓
SOLOMON, Malama	✓			
SLOM, Sam		✓		
<b>TOTAL</b>	4	1		2
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted         <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted         </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature:				
<b>Distribution:</b> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 5px;"> <span>Original File with Committee Report</span> <span>Yellow Clerk's Office</span> <span>Pink Drafting Agency</span> <span>Goldenrod Committee File Copy</span> </div>				

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